

EPA Climate Change and Water News

July 17, 2013

The *EPA Climate Change and Water News* is a bi-weekly newsletter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water that features news and information about EPA and other federal agencies related to climate change and water. Partner activities, as well as related events and publications, are also included.

For more information on climate change and water, please visit our website:
<http://www.epa.gov/water/climatechange>.

U.S. EPA News

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U.S. EPA News

Explore Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation by Region or Sector on EPA's Climate Change Website

The changing climate impacts society and ecosystems in a broad variety of ways. For example climate change can increase or decrease rainfall, influence agricultural crop yields, affect human health, cause changes to forests and other ecosystems, or even impact the nation's energy supply. Climate-related impacts are occurring across regions of the country and across many sectors of the U.S. economy. EPA's Climate Change website provides relevant resources to those interested in learning more about expected climate change impacts and adaptation options. More specifically, the website lists impacts from climate change and adaptation efforts by region or sector. The website also provides a number of resources to assist public officials and others with climate change adaptation planning. To access EPA's Climate Change website, please visit: <http://epa.gov/climatechange/impacts-adaptation/index.html>.

EPA's WaterSense-Labeled Products Save Americans Nearly \$9 Billion

Consumers who invested in WaterSense-labeled products have saved a total of \$8.9 billion in water and energy bills and 487 billion gallons of water since the program's inception in 2006. That's the amount of water needed to supply all the homes in Colorado and Arizona for one full year. In 2012 alone, WaterSense-labeled products helped to save more than 202 billion gallons of water. For more information about this news item and to learn more about EPA's WaterSense program, visit: http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/summer2013.html#one.

Other U.S. Federal Agency News

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Releases Report: "U.S. Energy Sector Vulnerabilities to Climate Change and Extreme Weather"

This report—part of the Obama Administration's efforts to support national climate change adaptation planning through the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force and Strategic Sustainability Planning process established under Executive Order 13514 and efforts to advance the DOE's goal of promoting energy security—examines current and potential future impacts of these climate trends on the U.S. energy sector. The report identifies activities underway that address climate challenges and discusses potential opportunities to enhance energy technologies that are more climate-resilient. It also discusses information, stakeholder engagement, and policies and strategies to further enable the deployment of these opportunities. The report attempts to advance DOE's goal of promoting energy security by examining current and potential future impacts of climate trends on the U.S. energy sector. To access this report, please visit: <http://energy.gov/downloads/us-energy-sector-vulnerabilities-climate-change-and-extreme-weather>.

NOAA Announces Monthly Drought Outlook Product

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center has begun issuing a monthly drought outlook. Issued the last day of each month, this product shows where drought is likely to set in, persist or worsen, improve, or end over the next month. The monthly drought outlook complements the weekly drought condition updates via the U.S. Drought Monitor. This new product will better capture the rapid onset of drought and drought improvement - information needed by many stakeholders; especially farmers and ranchers who may need timely and accurate information to make short-term decisions during growing season. To see the most recent drought outlook for the month of July, please visit: http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/month_drought.gif. For more information, please visit: http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2013/20130701_shorterdroughtoutlooks.html.

National Weather Service Offers Climate Variability and Change Virtual Course, July 29 - August 2, 2013

The National Weather Service is currently offering a Climate Variability and Change Virtual Course as part of its Climate Services Professional Development Series. Registrants can receive credit for completing the course or participate in portions of the course with "audit" status. The course will provide a deeper understanding of climate variability and change, as well as practice in communicating these topics. For more information, visit: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/csd/pds/ClimateVariability/index.shtml>.

U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Center Present Webinar on "Relationships among Climate, Water Quality, and Toxic Blooms of Golden Alga in Texas" on July 30, 2013 at 3:30pm eastern

Changes in air temperature and precipitation patterns associated with global climate change are anticipated to regionally affect the quality and quantity of inland surface waters and consequently their suitability as habitat for freshwater life. In addition, these changes in physicochemical traits of aquatic habitats may favor the establishment of harmful invasive species. This project will (1) assemble an electronic database of observed historical water temperatures for selected reservoirs in Texas with significant fisheries; (2) combine historical records of reservoir water quality, air temperature, and precipitation with projected climate changes; (3) assess the impact of the projected changes on the

physical and chemical environment and on aquatic populations and communities; and (4) conduct a retrospective analysis of relations that may exist between historical changes in water quality and the relatively recent spread of a harmful invasive species in Texas and at least 19 other states. Presented by the U.S. Geological Survey's National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center (NCTC), this webinar is part of the 2013 Climate Change Science and Management Webinar Series. Participants must register at <https://nccwsc.usgs.gov/webinar/188>.

NOAA Offers Climate Connection E-Newsletter

NOAA Climate Connection is a free monthly e-newsletter designed to increase climate literacy and communication capacity for NOAA and its partners. Subscription requests can be sent to NOAAClimateConnection@noaa.gov. To view the June 2013 NOAA Climate Connection e-newsletter, visit: <http://myemail.constantcontact.com/June-2013-Newsletter.html?soid=1108948661887&aid=Wq8eeBvJSGA>.

Other News

Second Ocean Acidification Principal Investigators' Meeting to be Held September 18-20, 2013 in Washington, D.C.

The second U.S. Ocean Acidification (OA) Principal Investigators' Meeting will be held in Washington, DC at Gallaudet University's Kellogg Conference Center on September 18-20, 2013. This three-day meeting will bring together the U.S. ocean acidification research community to assess the state of OA science nationally and to identify knowledge gaps and opportunities for collaborations that will accelerate OA research in the future. This meeting offers an opportunity for the scientific community to help shape U.S. national OA research efforts as they develop. In addition to poster sessions to showcase scientific results, meeting activities include numerous panels, plenary, and breakout discussions designed to explore how current U.S. ocean acidification research and organizational support fit together, and to identify where greater synergies can be encouraged. Meeting attendees will take an active role in considering the current state of the science and planning future opportunities for the research community as a whole. For more information and to register, please visit: <http://www.whoi.edu/page.do?pid=117036>

Researchers Stress the Importance of Knowledge Networks for Climate Change Adaptation

NOAA-funded researchers in the Great Lakes Region recently published an article for the journal *Nature Climate Change* on the importance of fostering knowledge networks for climate adaptation. In this paper, the authors stress the importance of forging network connections among rapidly changing communities of decision-makers and researchers to foster the social learning necessary for effective adaptation to climate risks. The authors discuss how the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) Center, one of eleven RISA Centers funded by NOAA's Climate Program Office, are experimenting with this model. For more information, please visit: <http://cpo.noaa.gov/Home/AllNews/TabId/315/ArtMID/668/ArticleID/161/NOAA-funded-researchers-on-fostering-knowledge-networks-for-climate-change-adaption.aspx>.